

# DATA PROTECTION FOR DUMMIES



Hi! I am Allisa a researcher from Leiden University. I am doing a research on the illegal sale of substances in the Hague.



Wait a second!  
What ethical considerations do i have to make? So let's asses the risks.



Firstly, I have to ask myself how senstive the nature of your data is. Who would i want to protect this data from? How can i store and protect this data?



Secondly, I should consider the implication and consequences of lacking data protection. What were to happen if this data got out? Who is involved and who would be affected and how?



Thirdly, I MUST ASK FOR INFORMED CONSENT from my data sources. This means that my participants should be made aware of the full extent of the collection, storage and usage of their data. And remember that consent is an ongoing process of negotiation!



How do I protect my data? Unless stated otherwise i need to anonymize my research participants. Use a secure network such as ExpressVPN to secure my browsing amongst other safety features. I should hide or encrypt my files using a platform such as Veracrypt. I should also add an antivirus such as McAfee to secure my laptop from hacking.



I have gotten in contact with a substance supplier that is willing to be a part of my research. I want to keep this data private so that people such as his family, the police or future employers do not gain access. the measures i have taken for my physical form of data are keeping my notebooks in a safe place such as password protected safe and anonymizing my participants in my notes.



The measure i have take for my digital data are data anonymization by changing their name to Ruben, by encrypting and hiding my data using Veracrypt, by using ExpressVPN when doing background checks on my participants and by using an antivirus such as McAfee to make sure that my data cannot be hacked and that i will be warned about virusses.



I have done it!!! But also remember that data protection is an ongoing process. As researchers it is our responsibility to protect are research participants and their data.



*The End!*



# References

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